<u>Claims</u>

1. (Currently amended) A method of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks that communicate with one another across a connecting network, the method comprising:

determining a packet loss rate of previous calls ~~from a first local area network~~ to a ~~second~~ local area network;

<u>deciding to determine a current packet loss rate based on said packet loss rate of previous calls,</u>

<u>determining said current packet loss rate,</u> and

deciding to drop a call attempt based on the <u>current</u> packet loss rate ~~of previous calls~~.

2. (Currently amended) A method of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks that communicate with one another across a connecting network, the method comprising:

determining current packet loss rate for calls from the first local area network to the second local area network; and

deciding to drop call attempt based on the current packet loss rate; wherein

said step of determining a current packet loss rate comprises transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node <u>comprising a telephone</u> in the first local area network through the connecting network to a second node <u>comprising a telephone</u> in the second local area network, reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to the first node, and receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through the connecting network;

said step of determining to drop a call attempt comprises comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst of trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous stream of data can be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second node in the second local area network; and

said burst of trial data comprises a plurality of packets having a size and priority that corresponds to packets that are to be sent if the call is completed.

3. (Currently amended) A method of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks that communicate with one another across a connecting network, the method comprising

determining a packet loss rate of previous calls from a first local area network to a second local area network;

determining current packet loss rate for calls from the first local area network to the second local area network; and

deciding to drop the call attempt based on the current packet loss rate and the success rates of previous calls, wherein:

said step of determining a current packet loss rate comprises transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in the first local area network through the connecting network to a second node in the second local area network, reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to the first node, and receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through the connecting network;

said step of deciding to drop a call attempt comprises comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst of trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous stream of data can be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second node in the second local area network; and

said burst of trial data comprises a plurality of packets having a size and priority that corresponds to packets that are to be sent if the call is completed.

4.-6.   (Cancelled)

7. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said current packet loss rate comprises transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in the first local area network through the connecting network to a second node in the second local area network, reflecting the burst of trial data

received at the second node back to the first node, and receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through the connecting network.

8. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein said first node comprises a telephone and said second node comprises a telephone.

9. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein said burst of trial data comprises a plurality of packets having a size and priority that correspond to packets that are to be sent if the call is completed.

10. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining a packet loss rate of previous calls comprises determining the packet loss rate from a first local area network to a second local area network.

11. (New) A method according to claim 3, wherein said first node comprises a telephone in the first local area network and said second node comprises a telephone in the second local area network.